

March 13, 2009

WASHINGTON, D.C. – On Friday, March 13, representatives from the Linda Creed Breast Cancer Foundation bestowed their first annual ACE Award on Congressman Joe Sestak. The ACE Award is so named because it represents Actions, Commitment and Efforts toward the ongoing fight to eradicate breast cancer, and honors the Congressman's long commitment to curing breast cancer.

"I am honored to receive this award," said Congressman Sestak. "Breast cancer is a devastating disease that one in eight women will develop over their lifetime, and it is the leading cause of death among women age 45 and older. Having lived in a cancer ward with my own daughter, I understand the challenge families face when they receive a cancer diagnosis. I am very concerned about those who suffer from breast cancer both here in the 7th Congressional District and across the country.

"I know, however, that when breast cancer is detected early, many more lives can be saved. I want to help ensure that all families have the same access to high quality care that my daughter has had, and so I am committed to working with the Linda Creed Foundation and other advocates to bring greater awareness of breast cancer and support for its research and treatment."

Donna Duncan, Executive Director of the Foundation, commended Congressman Sestak for his dedication to curing breast cancer. "Joe Sestak recognizes that combating breast cancer is a formidable task, one that can only be accomplished with good science, adequate funding, effective treatments and comprehensible awareness and education. He has taken the lead in supporting meaningful legislation to accomplish this."

The Linda Creed Breast Cancer Foundation (legal name: Linda Creed Epstein Foundation) was founded in 1987 by a core of friends and family of Linda Creed, a Philadelphia songwriter who died at the age of 37 after waging a 10-year battle with breast cancer. The Foundation was innovative from its inception – the first local organization to address breast cancer as a serious and widespread disease threatening the lives of women living in the Delaware Valley. Today, the Linda Creed Breast Cancer Foundation empowers women and their families to talk about breast cancer, learn about it, and take control of their health and their lives. Their motto is "we

will be there...until breast cancer is not."

*Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, including Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group of 30 U.S. and allied ships with over 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of "Deep Blue," the Navy's anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the "Global War on Terrorism." He served as President Clinton's Director for Defense Policy at the National Security Council in the White House, and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University. According to the office of the House Historian, Joe is the highest-ranking former military officer ever elected to the U.S. Congress.*

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